

## Matthew 5:1-3 The Passcode to Kingdom living! (The King and His Kingdom)

### Intro: How many of you have a Smart Phone? Passcode?

A) You can't do anything without that passcode.  
You can't make a call – send a text.

B) You can't go to an APP – can't listen to the  
Calvary Vista Podcast

1) You can't use the calculator or listen to music

C) That passcode – opens the door to the  
wonderful world of technology and all that your  
phone can do.

### Today we are going to consider what could be called the passcode to Kingdom living.

A) It is an attitude of the heart – the posture of  
one's life that unlocks the door of Access into  
God's kingdom

B) And it unlocks the door to so much of the  
blessings and resources that are available to the  
Christ follower.

C) Context of this passage: Wednesday we looked  
at Chapter 4 – where we read these words:

RD V.23-25

### NOTE V23 AGAIN: And Jesus went about all Galilee, teaching in their synagogues, preaching the gospel of the kingdom, and healing all kinds of sickness and all kinds of disease among the people.

A) Interesting that in Matthew 9:35 – Matthew  
repeats this same phrase:

B) Matthew 9:35 Then Jesus went about all the  
cities and villages, teaching in their synagogues,  
preaching the gospel of the kingdom, and healing  
every sickness and every disease among the  
people.

C) Why the Repetition? Matthew getting lazy in  
his writing of the gospel - Not at All

These two identical statements serve as bookends  
to help the readers understand the chapters in  
between.

A) Ch. 5-7 describe the preaching – (The Sermon  
On The Mount)

B) We are going to refer to as the Heartbeat of the  
Kingdom

1) Chapters 8-9 describe the miracles - We will call  
the Power of the King on display.

C) So between these two bookends of Matthew  
4:23 & 9:35 we have described for us the  
Teachings – What He taught – Heartbeat

1) The Miracles: What He did – Power on display

D) Jesus preached the Kingdom and then  
authenticated what He taught w/ HIS miracles

Now Matthew Chapter 5 is what has commonly  
been called the Sermon on the Mount –

A) Because of the Location – a hillside overlooking  
the sea of Galilee

B) The location is not really a mountain – more of  
just a Hill – but it was a Mountain of a sermon.

1) Some have called it – “The Kings manifesto of  
the Kingdom.”

C) The Greatest sermon ever preached – because it  
was given by the greatest preacher who ever lived.

D) Want to know what Jesus thinks about  
relationships and how we view people? **Read the  
Sermon on the Mount.**

1) Want to know what should be our world View?  
Rd Sermon on the Mount – World view of Jesus  
himself!

### Primary Audience: V.1,2

And seeing the multitudes, He went up on a  
mountain, and when He was seated His disciples  
came to Him. 2 Then He opened His mouth and  
taught them, saying:

A) Please don't miss the significance here: Seeing  
the Multitudes – COMPASSION - He called His  
disciples to come to Him.

B) Seeing the need around Him – He chose to teach  
and Equip his closet followers. – **More than the 12**  
(not chosen yet) - **directed at believers**

Now Matthew 7:28 tells us the crowds were  
astonished at His teaching.

A) So for those who were willing to climb the hill – and sit on the fringes – they were able to hear this sermon.

B) The sermon begins with the Beatitudes: - Eight declarations that Jesus made describing the heartbeat of the Kingdom.

C) These eight declarations describe the attitude and outlook that Jesus wants to produce in all of those who follow Him

**Each Beatitude begins with the word Blessed**

A) Blessed = oh how happy is the man the woman.

B) Happiness is something that everyone is looking for longing for.

1) Our Constitution guarantees the pursuit of Happiness for all Americans

C) And as American Christians we have the tendency to measure spiritual blessing with Stuff –

1) Good car – nice Job – House – I am blessed!

**Listen God has no problem giving his servants stuff.**

A) Many of the Characters God called in the Bible - he gave stuff to.

**B) Abraham: considered by today's standards – a millionaire – as would David.**

1) Job was a very wealthy man – And Solomon would have been considered by today's standards: a Multi billionaire

C) So God has no problem giving his servants stuff

1) BUT God DOES have a PROBLEM with our using STUFF to measure our spiritual STATUS

D) Stuff is the Bonus not the essence!

**The Blessed life flows from the character of the heart that Jesus is seeking to produce in His followers**

A) Each beatitude describes a blessing – and then gives the reason for the Blessings.

B) Notice also: that the first and last reasons are the same: **“for theirs is the kingdom of heaven”** (5:3, 10).

C) By opening and closing the list the same way,

Jesus is telling us that all of these blessings, from the first to the last, are of the kingdom.

**But Notice Also that the first and last promise are both in the Present tense: Theirs IS .....**

A) The others are future tense: they shall be comforted – they shall inherit the earth

B) Jesus is saying something that is hinted at throughout the Gospels:

**C) God's kingdom is already here, and it also hasn't yet arrived.**

1) Now and Not Yet aspect of the Kingdom

**That's why He can proclaim the blessing here and now while also speaking about the blessings of a future kingdom.**

A) It's the reason why those who mourn, those who make peace, and those who face persecution are blessed:

B) The kingdom of heaven has begun to invade earth.

1) Yet there is still a time for mourning, a need for peacemaking, and the threat of persecution because the kingdom has not yet come in its fullness.

**Three Kingdoms we associate with?**

A) First there is **the world or Kingdom around us** – this planet / our jobs / our friends / these fleshly bodies / all of which – Present challenges

B) This world that we live in is marked by greed / unfairness / disappointment

**C) This world is controlled by our adversary the Devil – god of this world**

1) He has an agenda – program – that is aimed at – **DESTRUCTION and DISTRACTION**

D) Distract people of their need of God

**Then there is the world or the Kingdom which is to Come – The Kingdom of our Lord – JESUS RETURNS**

**marked by peace / Joy / perfect righteousness**

A) A kingdom in which there will be no more pain / no more sorrow / no tears / a Kingdom marked by Beauty, Perfection & Ultimate Satisfaction

B) We are presently **longing** for that Kingdom – longing for that day when we will enter into that perfect & complete rest & be w/ our Lord

C) Joy that is beyond anything we could ever experience in this life !

### But then there is this 3<sup>rd</sup> Kingdom – THE KINGDOM WITHIN

A) The Kingdom w/in our hearts where He who is the King of kings and the Lord of Lords is wanting to reign

B) Jesus made this statement in Luke 17:21 to His disciples that the *Kingdom of God is with in You*

1) Meaning that where ever the King is reigning there the Kingdom of God is

C) So when we allow Jesus to reign in our Lives – He sets up His Kingdom w/ in our Hearts

D) THAT kingdom Jesus is most interested in THE PASSCODE: Unlocks the Door – the Kingdom and all it's blessings

#### V.3 Blessed are the poor in Spirit:

A) To be poor in spirit is to realize you are spiritually Destitute - What the word poor means - Destitute

B) IN NT Times it described a beggar – Someone who was so bad off they couldn't take care of themselves

C) They were so destitute that they did not possess the resources to food and clothe themselves

1) They were dependent on the Charity of others in order to Survive.

### Jesus is not talking about a physical poverty but a spiritual poverty

A) Poor in spirit means you have full recognition in the inner man of your complete inability to meet and address your own spiritual needs!

B) It is a sense of spiritual bankruptcy and helplessness before God.

1) Nothing I can do to change my spiritual condition as a sinner.

C) "Poor in spirit" is the realization that you have no assets to commend yourself before God.

1) You have no capital with which to bargain at the throne of judgment. It is a sense of moral uncleanness before God.

### That is why we can call it the passcode to the Kingdom!

A) Poor in spirit is the place where we realize – I am a sinner

B) Nothing I can do to change that – Standing with God

1) Try as I might to clean up my act – turn my life around

C) If you send a sinner to school, you'll have an educated sinner.

1) If you send a sinner to psychiatrist, you'll have a well-adjusted sinner.

D) Send a sinner to rehab – free from his addiction – A SOBER SINNER!

1) Give a sinner money and you'll have a wealthy sinner.

E) Give a sinner religion, have him sign a pledge card and join a church and you'll have a religious sinner.

1) But Send a sinner repentant of his sin to the cross, and you'll have a forgiven sinner.

### Ravi Zachariah - This story was recorded in the April 1989 issue of People magazine

The 8,000 mourners filed out of Vienna's St. Stephen's Cathedral and fell in line behind the Funeral Carriage drawn by six black horses.

Two hours later the procession ended at the Capuchin Church, where, in keeping with tradition, a member of the funeral party knocked on the door and a priest asked, "Who goes there?"

The titles of the deceased are read out loud, "Zita Queen of Bohemia, Dalmatia, Croatia, Slavonia, Galicia."

➤ Priest I do not Know her

A 2<sup>nd</sup> knock and "Who goes there?" brought the response, "Zita Queen of Jerusalem. Grand Duchess of Tuscany Empress of Austria and Queen of Hungary."

Again the reply, "I do not know her."

When the inevitable question was put a third time, the answer was simply, "Zita, a sinning mortal." The reply "Come in,"

**Poor in spirit is the place where we realize – I am a sinner**

A) Nothing I can do to change that – Give myself a right Standing with God

B) I need a Savior- I need to be a recipient of some Divine Charity

C) Christ died!

**Blessed are the poor in Spirit – passcode unlocks the door to the Kingdom – RECEIVE CHRIST**

A) **FOR THEIRS IS THE KINGDOM OF HEAVEN**

B) **God fills up your SPIRITUAL BANK ACCOUNT**

1) DEPOSITS **FORGIVENESS** – My standing changes

2) DEPOSITS – **RIGHTEOUSNESS**

3) DEPOSITS – **HOPE FOR the Future – MY Passing**

C) **AND HE DEPOSITS GRACE & POWER FOR LIVING**

**Which is why being Poor in Spirit IS NOT just the passcode for salvation but also for CHRISTIAN LIVING.**

A) It needs to be a constant state of the heart

B) Put simply: Realize your utter dependency upon God for everything

1) **Poverty of spirit empties a man and so makes him ready to be filled!**

C) For theirs **is the Kingdom of heaven** – Definitely salvation

1) But also resources for Kingdom living

**Examples:**

A) Paul no confidence in my flesh - What I used to be – my own righteousness – MANURE

B) Result: His grace is sufficient and His power is made perfect in my weakness

C) God used Paul's background / Paul did not rely

**Joshua an accomplished General**

A) Out spying the land – getting ready for the battle of Jericho – He runs into man dressed in battle armor

B) **For us or against – NO – weird answer –**

1) The commander of the army of the Lord ...come

C) Joshua's response? **Worships –**

1) Submits to this crazy battle plan.

D) Result: Kingdom resources are unleashed on Jericho

**Isaiah a fiery prophet**

A) First 5 chapters WOE ---

B) Sees the Lord – **Woe is me, undone, a man of unclean lips**

C) See the Lord – STANDARD: I Fail miserably on a weekly basis

1) BUT -That is Ok how I see my need of Jesus Jesus continues to Save

**Being poor in spirit means I realize I do not possess in my own capacity the ability to live the Christian life the way it was meant to be lived.**

A) Like a beggar is desperate for Charity to survive –

B) I am desperate for Divine intervention – Husband / wife / parent / Christian

C) **John 15 – For without me you can do nothing!**

1) Problem many of us don't believe that – We think – I can do some things – I am good at this

D) Being poor in spirit doesn't mean that I don't recognize that God has given me **gifts/talents/abilities/resources**

E) But it means that I am not trusting in those things – but rather I surrender those things to Jesus

**Now I am not suggesting I have this down all the time in my life – Constant struggle.**

A) As it relates to ministry – Yes I walk in this mentality often.

B) I know I have the ability **to craft a sermon**- but I also know – if Jesus doesn't breathe life in it – it's just words

1) If I am going to share – **MANNA** – specific word – I have got to hear from Him

C)Every time – I sit down **for a counseling**  
appointment - Lord help – need your wisdom  
1)Every time I go on a **hospital visit** – Someone is  
dying or just lost a loved one – LORD HELP

**Where I tend to fail is in the day to day things**

A)Being sensitive to my wife – Dwell with her in  
understanding.

B)I walk in my own strength – which means I  
react in my flesh.

C)This Kind prayer and fasting – we didn't know

1)That is the point.

**Same holds true for this: If I know my wife has  
had a bad day – if she got some bad news –**

A)I am praying – Lord I need your help today

B)But I don't always know – That is the point

C)Blessed are the poor in Spirit – for theirs....

1)Repeat: **Cursed** are the self Sufficient

D)Laodicea – Rich and need of nothing

1)Poor blind and naked – Lukewarm

**Poor in spirit – keeps the flame hot!**

A)Continually adding divine fuel

B)Pastor Chuck – **under the spout where the  
blessings come out**

C)Imagine what our walks would be like if we  
started our days. – **Poor in spirit** – **IN TUNE**

1)Imagine – **impact families** – church/ community